

AK --This application is a continuation of application no. 09/252,486, filed February 18, 1999, ^{now pat # 6,110,921} which is a continuation of application no. 09/005,549, filed January 12, 1998 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,965,168, which is a continuation of application no. 08/808,261, filed February 28, 1997 (now U.S. Patent No. 5,770,231), which is a continuation of application no. 08/154,403, filed November 19, 1993, ^{now ASN} --

Page 21, line 9, after "No.", please insert --08/154,409--.

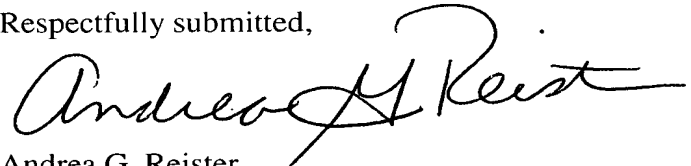
Remarks

The specification has been amended to recite the specific reference to the earlier filed applications in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 120, and to include an application number. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrea G. Reister
Registration No. 36,253

Date: May 26, 2000

HOWREY SIMON ARNOLD & WHITE, LLP
Box No. 34
1299 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004-2402
(202) 783-0800

42

A